

# CMES

## NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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### DEAR CMES COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS,

The transformations of the Arab world have been and remain the central focus of CMES's activities and planning in 2011. Since February, CMES has organized a number of events on their cultural, social, and political manifestations. CMES faculty spoke at campus-wide panel events on these themes and the Moroccan Studies Program invited guest speakers who gave Arabic lectures on the cultural dimension of the movements of Spring 2011. Our website has a full listing of media interviews by CMES faculty and staff related to the events in the Arab world as well as their writing on the topic, which I

*continues on next page...*



JUSTIN KNIGHT

of anthropologists and theoreticians of culture from Harvard and other American universities in order to give a comparative dimension to our research. We will try very hard to persuade major Arab intellectuals to help us with their insights and knowledge to find new approaches to the Arab transformations and modern Arabic culture. The newsletter will regularly report about the progress of this working group.

We are continuing the series on student research in which students, individually or as groups, present their research before faculty, students, and the general public and get feedback in public discussion. This past spring, Sara Roy presented an introduction to the relations between Palestine and Israel for the Mideast Newsreel series. In addition, Tarek Masoud spoke about the revolution in Egypt and Cemal Kafadar gave a talk on Turkey's impending elections. Video of these talks is available on our website. In the coming year the series will be covering Tunisia

(Malika Zeghal), Yemen (Steve Caton), Palestine (Herb Kelman), and Iraq (Roy Mottahedeh and Houchang E. Chehabi), as well as Pakistan and Southeast Asia. By the end of the fall term we should be able to present our first virtual "newsreel."

CMES continues to draw increasing numbers of applicants to its master's and PhD programs. In the spring, a combined total of 129 students applied for twelve positions in the AM and four positions in the PhD program. The high quality of our PhD applicants persuaded the authorities of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences to grant us a fifth PhD position, thus generously strengthening CMES's PhD program.

We also had shocking setbacks. The budget cuts on the national level reduced our budget from the Department of Education by 47%. These cuts will have repercussions on our teaching programs, in particular if similar cuts are imposed for 2012. We will not be able to sponsor

projects or other programs in the ways we did before and we will have to reduce plans for workshops. We hope to find the means to limit these negative effects and keep them from reducing our research activities.

I hope you enjoy reading about our plans for the coming year and the recent activities of our students, faculty, alumni, and affiliates.

Sincerely,  
**Baber Johansen**  
*CMES Director and Professor of Islamic Religious Studies, Harvard Divinity School*

**PREVIOUS PAGE: TOP ROW, LEFT** Syrian calligrapher Khaled Al-Saa'i at CMES for a talk and demonstration in April 2011. **RIGHT** 2011 AM graduates Marshall Nannes and Lani Frerichs. **MIDDLE ROW, LEFT** Street art in Cairo, June 2011. **RIGHT** 2011 AM graduate Alice Gissinger. **BOTTOM ROW, LEFT** William Granara with AM student Jarrod Wickline and Steven Brothers (AM '11) at the CMES commencement reception.

encourage you to visit. The Outreach Center has also been active in giving students and teachers background information on the events, including a study tour to Egypt that allowed the participants to get firsthand impressions of their effects on public life.

For the coming year, CMES is planning a faculty working group titled "Transformative Movements of the Arab World." Core members of CMES faculty such as Roger Owen, Roy Mottahedeh, Malika Zeghal, Steve Caton, and I will participate in this group. We hope to win the cooperation

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## TITLE VI FUNDING SLASHED FOR 2011-12

In May 2011, CMES and 126 other National Resource Centers across the US learned that Title VI funding to support area studies and language instruction would be cut by close to 50 percent for the upcoming year. The decreased support came as a surprise even to those closely watching congressional budget discussions. Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships, which provide academic year and summer funding for graduate students, were spared, having been committed before Congress passed the budget legislation.

That these cuts coincide with the greatest political and social change in the Arab Middle East in the last 60 years is particularly frustrating to those charged with preparing the next generation of Middle East specialists. Events of recent months have heightened the urgency of studying current developments in the Arab world, yet CMES has been forced to make deep reductions in faculty research workshops,

library acquisitions, and Outreach programming in order to protect direct support of language and area studies instruction. The cuts will hamper our ability to host visiting lecturers from the region to talk with faculty and students and to collect critical documents helpful in understanding the unfolding revolutions.

Directors of Harvard's Title VI centers have been working with the University's federal relations staff as well as colleagues from other affected institutions to develop an advocacy strategy to ensure that this year's funding levels do not become the new baseline for future years. A letter outlining the impact of the cuts has been sent to Secretary Duncan, Senators Kerry and Brown, and Representative Capuano. We encourage CMES alumni to contact their congressional representatives to add their voices to those who share concerns about the future of Title VI funding.

## RESPONDING TO THE ARAB SPRING

Since December 2010, CMES has hosted a series of events and created and collected online resources on the Arab political transformations in the Middle East region. In January, Professors William Granara and Malika Zeghal co-presented at a campus-wide panel focusing on the ouster of former Tunisian President Ben Ali. In February, the CMES Outreach Center conducted a nationwide webinar on teachable moments in the Egyptian protests, and co-sponsored an event on Egypt and Tunisia at the Harvard Kennedy School's John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum that featured Professors Tarek Masoud, Malika Zeghal, and Roger Owen and Ambassador Nicholas Burns. The forum event attracted an audience of 700 and was viewed online over 8,000 times. In March, Professor Masoud presented a CMES Mideast Newsreel talk on the Egyptian revolution; and the Outreach Center co-sponsored an Arabic faculty-led event on voices of dissent in Arabic literature. In April, the Outreach Center's Egypt Forum (an annual study tour for K-12 teachers) and a workshop on graphic novels presented excellent opportunities for educators to study the impact of the Arab Spring in Cairo and on graphic artists from the region. Throughout the spring, faculty, staff, and researchers affiliated with the Center provided commentary and analysis for a wide range of global media organizations (see <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/research/transformation/media> for a listing of op-eds and interviews).

Prior to traveling to Damascus to attend the Harvard Arab Alumni Association's annual meeting in March, CMES Director Baber Johansen inaugurated a campus-wide assessment group, comprising key faculty, students, and staff, to take stock of the events in the region and discuss how CMES and other Middle East-related programs on campus could respond. Based on these discussions, CMES is planning several new programs for the 2011-12 academic year, including a faculty working group and a lecture series on immigration. The **"Working Group on Transformative Movements of the Arab World"** will be composed of invited faculty meeting regularly to read, discuss, and learn from new research related to cultural resource mobilization in the Arab Middle East. Three areas will be considered for primary attention: pre-history of the movements for change in the Arab region (from local to national); change in society-government relations; and communication and mobilization of cultural resources. CMES hopes to host prominent speakers from the Arab world at each meeting and to invite a larger public to their lectures.

A three-part fall lecture series titled **"Arab Immigration to Asia, the US, and Europe"** will examine the impact of the political and social changes in the Arab Middle East on Arab immigration to three areas of the world. The first lecture, October 12 at 5:00pm at CMES, will be by Michael Gilson, Kriser Professor in Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies and director of the Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, New York University. The second will be held November 30 and will be delivered by Greg Feldman, professor of anthropology and geography at the University of British Columbia. Details are available on our website.

CMES is also participating in a Harvard-AUB research association, a new research partnership between Harvard and the Issam Fares Institute at the American University in Beirut, spearheaded by the Middle East Initiative at the Harvard Kennedy School. Focusing on joint research topics, AUB faculty will visit Harvard in the fall and Harvard faculty will travel to AUB in the spring. (Additional information on these programs, including details on additional public lectures, will be posted on the CMES website at <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/research/transformation/2011-12-focus>.)

In addition to these programs, CMES and the Outreach Center are planning a range of talks, webinars, symposia, and other events related to the ongoing events in the Arab world, including Newsreel talks on Tunisia and Yemen by Professors Malika Zeghal and Steve Caton and a Moroccan Studies Program symposium titled "Popular Protests, Governance, and Political Transitions in the Maghreb: Algeria, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia." For a full list, please visit <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/research/transformation/2011-12-events>.

**TOP & MIDDLE ROWS** Street art in Cairo, June 2011. **BOTTOM ROW** A CMES-sponsored February 3, 2011 panel talk on Tunisia, Egypt, and Lebanon.



# CMES EVENTS

Highlights from our Spring 2011 roster of seminars, lectures, workshops, and other events. See page 11 for a list of upcoming fall events.

## THE MEDITERRANEAN, CRISSED AND CONSTRUCTED

This three-day conference, held April 28–30, 2011, brought together leading scholars in anthropology, history, and literary studies of the Mediterranean and addressed academic debates surrounding the Mediterranean and the relations between history and anthropology. The conference's eight panels combined historical and anthropological studies of themes such as languages across the sea, regional formations, cross-Mediterranean networks, shifting and converging scales, the transmission and sedimentation of taste and desire, and the formation and determination of borders and identities. Twenty young scholars and graduate students attended as auditors, both from Harvard and from the wider US academic community. The event provided an important opportunity for Mediterraneanists to meet and become exposed to approaches, themes, and interests of disciplines other than their own. The conference provided ample proof of the feasibility and productivity of multidisciplinary discussion regarding the Mediterranean, as well as wider comparative discussion of the formation of regions.

## 2011 WATER WORKSHOP

The 2011 Water Workshop, held April 29 to May 1, brought together water experts representing multiple disciplines—anthropology, water planning and management, water engineering, landscape architecture, archaeology, history, and economics—from Harvard and other US universities to present their papers in progress. Topics included water sustainability issues in the Middle East as well as South Asia and Japan. The papers highlighted a variety of issues related to social stigmas about using recycled water, water sensitivity challenges, techno-political arrangements of water scarcity, water management in the deserts, mobile approaches to land use and water consumption, and water privatization debates. The multidisciplinary gathering provided a valuable opportunity for scholars to share ideas and strategies with others working on water issues, stimulating important discussions on today's water crisis. A second workshop on the same subject is planned for the spring of 2012.

## THE NILE REVOLUTION: CONSTITUTIONAL PROMISES AND CHALLENGE

On April 14, 2011, CMES and the Islamic Legal Studies Program jointly hosted the deputy chief justice of the Egyptian Supreme Constitutional Court, Adel Omar Sherif, who delivered a lecture

**TOP ROW** Hashim Sarkis at the Mediterranean conference. **SECOND ROW, LEFT** An audience member at the Mediterranean conference. **RIGHT** Maria Couroucli, Professor of Anthropology, Université Paris X, Nanterre, at the Mediterranean conference. **THIRD ROW** Adel Omar Sherif and Chibli Mallat, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Visiting Professor of Islamic Legal Studies. **BOTTOM ROW** Participants at the Outreach Center's graphic novel workshop.



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LEONARD WOOD



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titled “The Nile Revolution: Constitutional Promises and Challenge.” Sherif offered his analysis of unfolding political events in Egypt and the Egyptian military’s supervision of the drafting of a new constitution. The event was co-chaired by Roger Owen and Chibli Mallat, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Visiting Professor of Islamic Legal Studies, and was organized under the auspices of the CMES Workshop for Historical and Critical Perspectives on the History of the Social Sciences in Egypt, begun in 2008 by Roger Owen, Ellis Goldberg, professor of political science, University of Washington, and Leonard Wood in the interest of advancing Egyptian intellectual history. Justice Adel Omar Sherif’s lecture was followed by comments and questions from a panel composed of CMES Director Baber Johansen and Vicki Jackson and Frank Michelman, both of Harvard Law School. After the lecture, Justice Adel Omar Sherif continued discussions with students over lunch.

## 2011 SILVERMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE

On May 6, 2011, Marc Ellis, University Professor of Jewish Studies, professor of history, and director of the Center for Jewish Studies at Baylor University, delivered the second annual Hilda B. Silverman Memorial Lecture. In his lecture, titled “Mourning for Jerusalem: The Jewish Prophetic and the Israeli–Palestinian Conflict,” Professor Ellis examined Jewish thought and the different and increasingly divergent understandings of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict within the Jewish community. He argued that at the present juncture of Jewish history—following the Holocaust, the creation of Israel, and the oppression and dispossession of the Palestinian people—Jews are undergoing a profound ethical crisis, which calls for reflection and mourning. However, a solution can be found in the re-embrace of the prophetic, the indigenous core of the Jewish people. Deliberating on what it means to be Jewish in the world today, Ellis argued that a Jewish prophetic could also rekindle the Jewish and global desire for peace and justice in the Middle East, beginning in Jerusalem, the broken middle of Israel/Palestine.

## OUTREACH CENTER GRAPHIC NOVEL WORKSHOP AND PUBLIC PANELS

The CMES Outreach Center ended its 2010–11 program year with two days of dynamic workshops on graphic novels made in and about the Middle East and Muslim communities. The weekend began with a drop-in workshop offering participants the chance to develop their own illustrated narratives about the Middle East and Muslim

identity, and to engage in conversation with grassroots and independent comic artists from Beirut, Amman, and Cairo via Skype. The workshop was followed by a day of panels titled “Comics and Muslim Identity,” a public conversation exploring portrayals of Muslim identity in comics as well as the medium’s distinct features as a narrative form and cultural agent. Topics included comics and post-9/11 culture, legacies of Jewish and Muslim identity in US comics, Muslim identity in superhero comics, graphic storytelling in the Shahnameh, and the role of comics in contemporary activism in the Middle East. The workshop led to the creation of a “Muslim Superhero Comic Collection” that will be housed in the Outreach library. Both events were co-sponsored by the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard and Shura: The Islamic Forum at Harvard Divinity School. The comic-making workshop was additionally co-sponsored by the Harvard Islamic Society.

## APRIL STUDENT PANELS

CMES’s student panel series continued in April with presentations by four of Roger Owen’s PhD students. Arbella Bet-Shlimon (History & MES) and Sreemati Mitter (History) participated in a panel titled “From the Ground Up: Local Interactions with British Authority in Iraq and Palestine.” Bet-Shlimon discussed how local elites in the Iraqi city of Kirkuk interacted with British authorities and with the Baghdad-based Iraqi government in the era of the British Mandate, while Mitter’s talk was about banking and monetary life in Palestine during the Mandate, focusing on the interactions between British officials, the local banks, and their Arab customers in this period. The final panel of the semester, “Trade and Trafficking between the Middle East and the Indian Ocean World,” featured James Esdaile (History & MES) and Johan Mathew (History). Esdaile’s talk was about the operation of international commodity currencies under the aegis of imperial states. Mathew discussed the process by which, at the turn of the 20th century, the declining port of Muscat suddenly emerged as one of the world’s largest entrepôts for the trafficking of arms, and the inability of various states to harden their borders and monopolize flows of arms and ammunition.

BELOW, LEFT PhD student Sreemati Mitter (History). CENTER PhD student Arbella Bet-Shlimon (History & MES). RIGHT Spring 2011 Hilda B. Silverman Lecturer Marc Ellis, right.



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JAY SCHNITZER

## PHD STUDENT NEWS

**Elise Burton** studied Persian in Dushanbe, Tajikistan this summer on a grant from the Critical Language Scholarship Program.

**Darryl Li** presented papers at several conferences this spring including *Soldiering: The Afterlives of a Modern Experience* (Harvard); *Global Connections and South Asian Islam: Networks, Locales, and Cultures Beyond National Frames* (George Mason University); and the 2011 Law & Society Association Meeting in San Francisco. He also published opinion and magazine pieces with *Aljazeera.net*, *Jadaliyya.com*, and *SAMAR (South Asian Magazine for Action and Reflection)*. **Asher Orkaby** received the Moody Research Grant from the Lyndon B. Johnson Foundation in support of his research on US policy during the North Yemeni Civil War (1962–68). In June 2011, **Aleksandar Sopov** gave a talk titled “Selective Breeding and Bioprospecting: The Untold Story of Ottoman Science, Economy, and Politics,” for Orient-Institut Istanbul and İstanbul Bilgi Üniversitesi.



## AM STUDENT NEWS

**Elisabeth Johnson** studied in the intensive Arabic language program at John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, D.C., this summer. Beth also worked part-time as an intern at the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq and will continue her academic year position as an intern with the Harvard Kennedy School’s Dubai Initiative. While living in Aleppo, Syria, **Scott Liddle** wrote a feature article titled “Inside Syria’s Protests and Media War,” published by *The Daily Beast* on May 18, 2011, and featured on the popular blog *The Arabist*. A version of the article was also published in the Beirut-based *Middle East Reporter*. **Ayse Deniz Lokmanoglu** spent the summer months traveling between Ankara, Istanbul, and Mersin, Turkey to research the impact of the 1980 coup d’état on first- and third-grade religion and ethics classes. She interviewed several retired public school teachers and a Ministry of Education official. **Kelby Olsen** had a summer internship in Cairo with CARE’s education department. Her main project focuses on increasing transparency and accountability in schools through community involvement and by encouraging parents to monitor educational quality and activities in first-through fifth-grade education. **George Somi** spent the summer in Beirut working on his research project, a history of the ongoing relationship between Solidere, a Lebanese joint-stock company in charge of planning and redeveloping Beirut Central District, and the landowners and tenants of downtown Beirut. **Marian Smith** received a FLAS award that enabled her to participate in the Advanced Summer Persian Language Institute at UT Austin this summer.



## CMES 2011 AM THESIS PRIZE

Congratulations to Claire Elizabeth Kelly, winner of the 2010–11 prize for best master’s thesis in Middle Eastern Studies for her thesis “Male Voices and the Woman-Nation Trope: Ahlam Mosteghanemi Rewrites Kateb Yacine.” CMES also awarded honorable mentions to Zara Bohan and Hunter Bandy. The master’s thesis prize is awarded annually by a committee of CMES faculty members.

**TOP ROW** Members of CMES’s 2011 graduating class. **SECOND ROW, LEFT** Claire Kelly at CMES’s master’s student research presentations. **RIGHT** AM student Kelby Olson at HMECA’s end-of-year party. **BOTTOM ROW** PhD student Arbella Bet-Shlimon with AM students Jonathan Edwards, Huseyin Konus, and Jarrod Wickline at the HMECA party.

## CMES 2011 GRADUATES

### Joint PhD Programs

#### Michael James Esdaile

(History and MES)

*Dissertation:* "Aden and the End of Empire, 1936–1960"

#### Leonard Wood (History & MES)

*Dissertation:* "Reception of European Law, Origins and Islamic Legal Revivalism, and Transformations in Islamic Jurisprudence"

### AM Program

#### Hunter Bandy

*Thesis:* "Islamic Educational Treatises: A Guiding Light for Instructors, Students, and Their Books"

#### Zara Bohan

*Thesis:* "Women & Children First? The Impact of Humanitarian Practices on Sudanese Refugees in Cairo"

#### Steven Brothers

#### Lani Frerichs

*Thesis:* "Belligerent Occupation and Humanitarianization in Gaza: Law and Practice"

#### Alice Gissinger

#### Claire Kelly

*Thesis:* "Male Voices and the Woman-Nation Trope: Ahlam Mosteghanemi Rewrites Kateb Yacine"

#### Bethany Anne Kibler

#### Marshall Nannes

*Thesis:* "Foreign Boots, Arab Soil: Popular Views of American Bases in Kuwait and Bahrain"

#### Meghan Passarello

#### Zil Yassine

## HARVARD MIDDLE EAST CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

The Harvard Middle East Cultural Association is a student organization run by CMES AM students whose primary goal is to bring together students, faculty, and the wider Harvard community to promote awareness of the region and contribute to the social and intellectual life of the University. The group's weekly breakfasts at CMES encourage cultural, educational, and social interaction among those interested in the Middle East. Incoming HMECA President George Somi ([somi@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:somi@fas.harvard.edu)) will take the lead this fall. Activities will be announced through the Mideast List and the CMES website.

## ANNOUNCING THE HARVARD ARAB STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Harvard Arab Student Association has been approved for University-wide recognition as part of a pilot program open to only seven such groups. With a starting roster of 80 members representing the College and all of Harvard's graduate schools, HASA is the first Harvard-wide group of its kind. HASA aims to bring together members of the Harvard community interested in the Arab world and connect them to alumni, individuals, and organizations in the region; raise awareness of important issues related to the Arab world; and contribute to the sustainable development of the region. CMES is pleased to serve as HASA's administrative home and looks forward to the CMES-HASA relationship as an opportunity to enhance outreach to students. For more information, contact Sa'ed Atshan ([atshan@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:atshan@fas.harvard.edu)) or Ayah Mahgoub ([ayah\\_mahgoub@hks12.harvard.edu](mailto:ayah_mahgoub@hks12.harvard.edu)).

Please visit <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/about/visiting-researchers/2010-11-news> for news about publications and talks by our 2010–11 visiting researchers. More information about the visiting researcher program, including application information, is available on our website.

## 2011-12 VISITING RESEARCHERS

### Visiting Fellows

#### Lala Alieva

#### Ata Anzali

#### Jack Fairweather

#### Habib Ladjevardi

#### Erol Özvar

### Post-Doctoral Fellows

#### Naor Ben-Yehoyada

#### Çiğdem Benam

#### Yoav Mehozay

#### Fariba Parsa

#### Özlem Sert

#### Masayuki Ueno

### Visiting Scholars

#### Murat Borovali

#### Sevki Koray Dürak

#### Mahdi Farhani Monfared

#### Zhiyu Li

TOP ROW, LEFT 2010–11 Visiting Fellow Elaheh Kheirandish and faculty aid Maera Siddiqi. RIGHT Visiting Scholar Mahdi Farhani Monfared. BOTTOM ROW, LEFT Visiting Scholar Zhiyu Li at a CMES event in September 2011. RIGHT CMES Administrator Alison Howe (left) with Post-Doctoral Fellow Fariba Parsa and Parsa's daughter Linda.



## AM ALUMNI NEWS & UPDATES

### 1950s–1980s

**David L. Mack** ('64) wrote the lead article in the Summer 2011 issue of Tufts University's *Fletcher Forum* titled "Qadhafi, Libya, and the Politics of Change in the Middle East." **Joel Beinlin** ('74) recently published two books: *Social Movements, Mobilization, and Contestation in the Middle East and North Africa* (Stanford University Press, 2011) and *The Struggle for Worker Rights in Egypt* (Solidarity Center, 2010). His article "Workers and Egypt's January 25th Revolution" was published in *International Labor and Working Class History* 80 (2011). **Thomas P. "Lynn" Howell** ('76) is director in a new law firm and continues to practice business law in Oklahoma City. **Bruce Maddy-Weitzman** ('77) published *The Berber Identity Movement and the Challenge to North African States* (University of Texas Press, 2011). **Yadin Kaufmann** ('85) is a founding member of Sadara Ventures, which recently announced the first closing of its fund, the first of its kind, to invest in Palestinian software and technology companies.

### 2000s

**Kyle McEneaney** ('07) is a vice president at Northern Gulf Partners, an investment firm that invests in securities listed on the Iraq Stock Exchange and engages in private equity and corporate finance in Iraq in oilfield services, telecommunications, financial services, hospitality, and other sectors. **Aaron Williams** ('09) received the Department of the Army Commander's Award for Civilian Service in recognition of five months of field research on the Iraqi Army and Iraqi Federal Police in Mosul. His research topics included perceptions of sectarianism within the Iraqi security forces and the soldiers' concerns regarding the potential for further violence after the US military withdrawal.

## PHD ALUMNI NEWS & UPDATES

### 1950s–1980s

**Arthur Goldschmidt** (AM '61, PhD '68) is currently under contract to revise *A Brief History of Egypt* (Checkmark Books, 2007) and the *Historical Dictionary of Egypt* (Scarecrow Press, 2003), and will revise *A Concise History of the Middle East*, now in ninth edition, for Westview Press. **Paul Magnarella** ('71) published *Human Rights in Our Time* (Peace and Justice Press, 2011), and continues to direct the Peace and Justice Studies Program at Warren Wilson College, Asheville, NC. **John Gault** ('75) is the co-director of a new program, "Executive Master in Oil and Gas Leadership," at the Graduate Institute, Geneva. The program's goal is to give mid-career professionals from state-owned oil companies and government ministries of oil and gas exporting countries the chance to view the energy industries from a global perspective and to learn the most advanced methods of managing depletable natural resources.

### 1990s

**Anne Sweetser** ('92) is working as social development specialist on a project, Emergency Assistance for Recovery and Reconstruction, in Osh, Kyrgyzstan. Funded by the Asian Development Bank, the project aims to promote reconciliation between the Kyrgyz and Uzbek populations by rebuilding houses destroyed in 2010's fighting and reconstructing infrastructure in affected communities. **Richard Foltz** ('96) has been promoted to full professor in the Department of Religion at Concordia University, Montreal. His book *Spirituality in the Land of the Noble: How Iran Shaped the World's Religions* (Oneworld Publications, 2004) has recently been published in Persian. In April 2011, Indiana University Press published a book **Emily Gottreich** (PhD '99) co-edited with Daniel Schroeter, titled *Jewish Culture and Society in North Africa*.

### 2000s

**Aykan Erdemir** (AM '98, PhD '04), member of the Party Assembly of the Republican People's Party (CHP), was elected to the Turkish parliament in the general elections in June 2011. **Kristen Stilt** ('04), associate professor of law and history at Northwestern University, published *Islamic Law in Action: Authority, Discretion, and Everyday Experiences in Mamluk Egypt* (Oxford University Press, 2011). She will be a visiting professor at Harvard Law School for the 2011–12 academic year. **Avi Rubin** ('06), faculty member in the Department of Middle East Studies at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel, published *Ottoman Nizamiye Courts: Law and Modernity* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011). **Zahra Jamal** ('08) will be the Mellon Fellow for the Sawyer Seminar on International Women's Rights at the University of Chicago's Gender Studies Center for the upcoming academic year. **Anthony Shenoda** ('10) will continue to be visiting assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at Scripps College in 2011–12. His article "The Politics of Faith: On Faith, Skepticism, and Miracles among Coptic Christians in Egypt" is forthcoming in *Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology*. **Leonard Wood** ('11) spent the summer working at the Department of Justice in the Criminal Division of the US Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. Last spring he won his fourth Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, a Harvard teaching award based on student-submitted evaluations, for Arabic 162—"Introduction to the Modern Arab World I."

Professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic Religion and Cultures **Ali Asani** delivered a number of lectures in Spring 2011 including talks at Harvard Clubs in Beirut and Pittsburgh and the keynote address for *Sounds and Spaces of Muslim Piety: Tradition and Transformation*, sponsored by the Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology at the University of Alberta. Professor Asani served as a consultant for the “Bridging Cultures Bookshelf Project,” which is placing books that improve understanding of Islam and Muslim societies in 1,000 US public libraries. Former Arabic Preceptor **Mostafa Atamnia** was awarded the Bonanno Prize for outstanding language instruction from the Harvard Extension School in May 2011. He began teaching Arabic at the University of Notre Dame in August 2011. CMES Associate **Don Babai** received a grant from the International Trade Committee of the Riyadh Chamber of Commerce to conduct a large-scale quantitative survey on issues of corporate governance, management behavior, and business strategy among private companies in Saudi Arabia, which will be part of the empirical underpinning for his book on Saudi Arabia. In May and June 2011, CMES Outreach Center Director **Paul Beran** traveled to Egypt, Jordan, the West Bank, and Israel to prepare for a fall course at the Harvard Extension School on Middle East politics, and gave a series of talks on the Arab uprisings to alumni-organized groups in New England. Dr. Beran is currently co-editing a volume on graphic novels and comics from the Middle East. **Steven C. Caton**, professor of contemporary Arab studies, presented a paper on water sustainability challenges at a June 2011 conference on Yemen. In July 2011, he gave a talk on the current economic and political status of Yemen at the Harvard Kennedy School. **Jocelyne Cesari**, CMES research associate and director of the Islam in the West Program, was interviewed for a June 24, 2011 segment of PBS’s *Religion and Ethics Newsweekly* and is the subject of a “Faculty Insight” video interview available on the Harvard Extension School’s website. Dr. Cesari’s op-ed piece, “A Marshall Plan for the Middle East?” was published on Guardian.co.uk on May 14, 2011. Assistant Professor of Economics **Eric Chaney** presented a working paper titled “Economic Shocks, Religion, and Political Influence” at a March 2011 meeting of the Harvard Department of Economics’ Applied Statistic Workshop. In July 2011, he attended the 16th World Congress of the International Economics Association in Beijing, where he presented “Separation of Powers and the Medieval Roots of Institutional Divergence between Europe and the Islamic Middle East.” **Luis Girón-Negrón**, professor of Romance languages and literatures and comparative literature, is on leave in 2011–12 working on an annotated critical edition of the 15th-century *Biblia de Arragel* with a Collaborative Research Fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies. In April 2011, **William A. Graham**, dean of the Harvard Divinity School, John Lord O’Brian Professor of Divinity, and Murray A. Albertson Professor of Middle Eastern Studies, discussed “Islam and the Clash of Civilizations: Addressing Current Myths” at the annual spring dinner of the Harvard Club of Northeast Ohio and at the City Club in Cleveland, Ohio. This summer, Dean Graham traveled to Malaysia where he delivered two lectures on

BELOW William Granara (far right), Khaled Al-Masri (bottom row, left), and Allison Blecker (AM '10, far left) with the students of the Harvard summer program in Menton.



orientalism and the interpretation of the Muslim-majority world in the West and consulted with the leadership of the International Muslim University and the Ministry of Education. **William E. Granara**, professor of the practice of Arabic, spent June and July 2011 in Menton, France overseeing and teaching for the first Harvard summer program there, a collaboration with Sciences-Po focused on the historical, literary, and cultural aspects of Arab and European interactions in the modern era. Arabic Preceptor **Khaled Al-Masri** also taught in the program. Professor Granara’s chapter “Ibn Hamdis’s al-Dimas Qasida: Memorial to a Fallen Homeland,” is forthcoming in a collected volume of essays. **Wolfhart P. Heinrichs**, James Richard Jewett Professor of Arabic, has three articles forthcoming: “Ibn Khaldūn as an Historical Linguist,” in *Festschrift John Huehnergard*; “‘Genres’ in the *Kitāb al-Luqṭah* of Ibn Rushd’s *Bidāyat al-muḥtaḥid wa-nihāyat al-muqtaṣid*,” in *Festschrift Bernard Weiss*; and “Modes of Existence of the Poetry in the *Arabian Nights*,” in *Festschrift Wadad Kadi*. Arabic Preceptors **Feryal Hijazi** and **Nevenka Korica-Sullivan** and Turkish Preceptor **Himmet Taskomur** received Certificates of Teaching Excellence, based on student-submitted course evaluations, for courses taught in Fall 2010. CMES Director and Professor of Islamic Legal Studies **Baber Johansen** was the session chair for a seminar sponsored by Islamic Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School in April 2011, titled “President Obama’s New Beginning Framework: A Discussion of US Policies and Engagement with Muslim Communities around the World.” Professor Johansen was a respondent at the CMES co-sponsored April lecture by Adel Omar Sherif (see page 4). **Cemal Kafadar**, Vehbi Koç Professor of Turkish Studies, and **Gülru Necipoğlu**, Aga Khan Professor of Islamic Architecture, co-organized a conference in March 2011 at Artuklu University, Mardin, Turkey, in which participants were treated to several days of site visits in Mardin, Kiziltepe, Dara, Hasankeyf, Cizre, and Midyat. Participants included Himmet Taskomur and **David Roxburgh**,

Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Professor of Islamic Art History, who presented a paper on al-Jazari's book of mechanical devices. Over the summer, Professor Roxburgh presented a paper on Abdal-Rahman al-Sufi's uranometry treatise at a conference at the Kunsthistorisches Institut, Florence. His preview of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art exhibition "Gifts of the Sultan: The Arts of Giving at the Islamic Courts" was published in *Art Forum* (May 2011). Associate Director **Susan M. Kahn** delivered a paper as part of a panel on "Globalization and Women's Reproductive Rights: The Case of Assisted Reproductive Technologies and Surrogacy," at the Berkshire Conference on Women's History in June 2011. Harvard Medical School (HMS) Assistant Professor of Social Medicine **Salmaan Keshavjee** will be a Zinberg Fellow in Global Health Delivery at the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School for 2011–12, and continues as the director of the Program in Infectious Disease and Social Change at the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School. CMES Research Associate **Ahmad Mahdavi-Damghani** taught seven individualized tutorials to eleven students in Spring 2011, covering classical Arab literature, Islamic theology and philosophy, and Persian contemporary literature. Dr. Mahdavi-Damghani's most recent publication is a preface to Abu Tammam's *Kitāb al-Wahshīyyāt* (Miras-e Maktoob, 2011). In 2010 he published an article in *Life and Enough* by Karim Feizi, and *The Noble Princess of Shahrbanu* (*Mirror of Heritage* 7.16). CMES Associate **Lenore G. Martin** recently co-wrote two blog posts on Turkey with Joshua Walker: "Is Turkey Losing Its Balancing Act in the New Middle East" (Middle East Channel on ForeignPolicy.com, May 26, 2011) and "Turkey's New AKP Government: Will It Move towards a Liberal or Illiberal Democracy?" (Huffington Post, June 22, 2011). Dr. Martin presented at the Workshop on Turkey-Israel, Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Aviv University, March 2011, and on Turkey and Iran for the second annual conference of the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C., June 2011. **Tarek Masoud**, assistant professor of public policy (Harvard Kennedy School), delivered testimony on the Muslim Brotherhood in post-Mubarak Egypt to the US House of Representatives Intelligence Subcommittee in April 2011.

Professor Masoud published "The Upheavals in Egypt and Tunisia: The Road to (and from) Liberation Square" in the *Journal of Democracy* 22.3 (July 2011). CMES Associate **Susan Miller**, associate professor of history, University of California, Davis, gave several talks in the spring semester including two teach-ins at UC Davis on the Arab Spring. At the first, in February 2011, Professor Miller compared the Tunisian and Egyptian revolutions; in May 2011 she discussed the "stalled" revolution in Libya, and the distortions in reporting on the Libyan situation by the media. Gurney Professor of History **Roy P. Mottahedeh** will deliver a CMES Mideast Newsreel on Iraq this fall with Houchang E. Chehabi, professor of international relations and history, Boston University. **E. Roger Owen**, A.J. Meyer Professor of Middle Eastern History, participated as an instructor in a four-day course for the US military's Foreign Area Officers at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, in June 2011. Professor Owen delivered the 2010 Annual Lecture of the British Society of Middle Eastern Studies, "British and French Military Intelligence in Syria and Palestine, 1914–1918: Myths and Reality," which was published in the *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* 38.1 (April 2011). In May 2011, CMES Associate **Sara Roy** was invited by the Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI) to a conference on the United States and the Arab world. Dr. Roy's paper, "US Foreign Policy and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: A View from Palestine," will be published by IFRI. **Hashim Sarkis**, Aga Khan Professor of Landscape Architecture in Muslim Societies, Harvard Graduate School of Design, was the first prize winner for the Byblos Town Hall Competition in Lebanon, 2011. His work was exhibited at the MOMA, October 2010, and the Venice Biennale, Fall 2010. Professor Sarkis published "It's Istanbul (Not Globalisation)" in *The Endless City II* (Phaidon Press, 2011). Arabic Preceptor **Paul Wulfsburg** was a resident director this summer for the American Council for International Education's Intensive Summer Language Institute program for American high school teachers of Arabic in Alexandria, Egypt. **Malika Zeghal**, Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Professor in Islamic Thought and Life, was interviewed in April 2011 by WBEZ in Chicago about the democratic changes taking place in Tunisia. In May 2011 Professor Zeghal participated in a webinar co-sponsored by CMES and the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program titled "Political Islam in the Changing Arab World: Complexifying the Muslim Brotherhood" and contributed "Accueillir les Tunisiens. Un geste symbolique," to the blog Mediapart.

BELOW Cemal Kafadar and Gülru Necipoğlu at the Kasimiye Medresesi, Mardin, Turkey.



DAVID ROXBURGH

## ARRIVALS

CMES is pleased to welcome **Maher Jarrar**, professor, Civilization Sequence Program and Arabic Department, and director, Anis Makdisi Program in Literature, American University of Beirut, as the Fall 2011 Shawwaf Visiting Professor. Also joining us this semester are Arabic Preceptor **Dalia Abo-Haggag** and **Chad Kia**, lecturer on Persian literature and culture.

# UPCOMING EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

CMES and the Outreach Center have a wide range of events planned for 2011–12. Visit <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/events/calendar> for a list of all upcoming events.

## POPULAR PROTESTS, GOVERNANCE, AND POLITICAL TRANSITIONS IN THE MAGHREB: ALGERIA, LIBYA, MOROCCO, AND TUNISIA

October 20–21, 2011

This symposium, organized by William Granara and Malika Zeghal under the auspices of the CMES Moroccan Studies Program, will reflect on the political consequences of the Tunisian popular uprisings of December 2010 and January 2011 on the Maghreb region. Though each country is taking a different path towards change—democratic transitions, political reforms, or civil war—the participants will reflect on the broad meaning of the new political paradigms that are now emerging on the southern shores of the Mediterranean.

## PLURALISM, COEXISTENCE, AND CONFLICT: MAJORITY AND MINORITY COMMUNITIES IN MUSLIM SOCIETIES

October 27–29, 2011

The CMES Initiative on Contemporary Islamic Societies (ICIS), led by Cemal Kafadar, will host a workshop titled, “Pluralism, Coexistence, and Conflict: Majority and Minority Communities in Muslim Societies.” Funded by the Henry Luce Foundation, the workshop and research network activities will focus on majority- and minority-community formation, both historical and contemporary, in Muslim-majority and -minority countries spanning Europe, the Middle East, and South and Southeast Asia, and the range of expressions of pluralism and particularism by which such communities are identified. Part of the agenda will be to survey political and legal institutions that support plural societies or instead exacerbate conflict.

## THE PROTOCOL OF THE GAZE

November 4–5, 2011

CMES Director Baber Johansen has organized, together with Maria Pia Di Bella (IRIS-EHESS, Paris), a workshop on the Protocol of the Gaze. This workshop is dedicated to the importance of visibility and invisibility in religious systems of thought, law, ethics, and ritual as well as their political use. It will treat problems of sovereignty, gender relations, sacrifice, and power. Special attention will be given to the philosophical and epistemological problems connected with defining a “protocol” of the gaze. The participants of this interdisciplinary workshop are leading scholars in their fields. More details will be posted on CMES’s website in mid-October.

## 2011 GIBB LECTURES: JUST WAR ACCORDING TO ARABIC WRITING PHILOSOPHERS

November 8, 2011 — “Al-Fârâbî’s Doctrine of Just War”  
November 9, 2011 — “Averroes’ Doctrine of Just War”

November 10, 2011 — “Averroes’ and Al-Fârâbî’s Doctrine of Just War Versus Their Greek and Muslim Antecedents”

The 2011 H.A.R. Gibb Lecture Series will be delivered by Maroun Aouad, director of research at the Centre nationale de la recherche scientifique in Paris and visiting professor at the University of Geneva. Professor Aouad has received numerous awards, fellowships, and honors including the Delalande-Guerineau Prize given by the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres in 2004. He is the principal investigator of the European Research Council Project titled “Philosophy in Context: Arabic and Syriac Manuscripts in the Mediterranean (PhiC).” He has edited, translated, and studied many Arabic commentaries on Aristotle’s *Rhetoric*, such as *Averroes’ Middle Commentary*, published in three volumes (Vrin, 2002), and has published articles on topics including Islamic medieval political philosophy and Arabic Christian logicians of the 17th and 18th centuries.

## AN EVENING WITH DAVID GROSSMAN

November 15, 2011

The Center for Jewish Studies and CMES are pleased to present a talk by Israeli author David Grossman as part of the Israeli Law, Literature, and Society seminar series. Grossman’s books, which have been translated into more than 30 languages and have won numerous prizes, include *To the End of the Land* (2010), *Her Body Knows* (2005), and *Someone to Run With* (2003). The event is funded in part by the Consulate General of Israel to New England Boston.

## ART AS POLITICAL PROTEST IN THE ARAB SPRING: GRAFFITI AND STREET ART

October 13 & 17, 2011

This two-session webinar series for educators will explore the role of art as an expression and tool of political dissidence with a focus on Cairo’s graffiti and street art in the context of the Arab Spring. The sessions will include a presentation by Arabic-language graffiti artist El Seed and a look at the broader context of street art in the Middle East.

BELOW, LEFT Author David Grossman. RIGHT Street art in Cairo, June 2011.



# THE OUTREACH CENTER

## *Paul Beran, Outreach Center Director*

The CMES Outreach Center's activities in Spring 2011 focused on learning from the Arab transformations in the Middle East region and building events, webinars, and workshops around related themes. We concluded our three-part comics and graphic novels series, which brought together teachers and artists (see page 5). Participants in the Egypt Forum, a training program in Middle East studies that involves seven to ten K-12 teachers each year, traveled to Cairo in April 2011 to study the aftermath of the revolution and to meet with peer educators. Over the summer, the Outreach Center co-sponsored a series of faculty talks, on Yemen, energy, Egypt, and Ramadan, for the Harvard summer community, and held two weeklong workshops on teaching about the contemporary Middle East.

Our early fall offerings included lesson plans and online and on-campus events addressing the tenth anniversary of 9/11. These included a campus-wide panel discussion featuring Jocelyne Cesari; Duncan Kennedy, Carter Professor of General Jurisprudence, Harvard Law School; and Charlie Clements, executive director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, Harvard Kennedy School. (Video of this event is available on our website.) For the upcoming year, the Outreach Center's focus will be on understanding the Arab transformation and protest art from the region. These academic subjects will be explored through webinars for educators, conferences, curricular resources, and on- and off-campus events. Also this fall we will launch our Virtual Learning Initiative, an integrated set of online learning tools and resources designed to make CMES's research and teaching on topics related to the Middle East region available to local, national, and international audiences. We welcome everyone's participation in our programs.

**RIGHT, TOP** Participants in the 2010-11 Egypt Forum, on Tahrir Square. **CENTER** Jocelyne Cesari, Charlie Clements, and Duncan Kennedy at the 9/11 anniversary panel. **BOTTOM** Work from the Outreach Center's graphic novel workshop.



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